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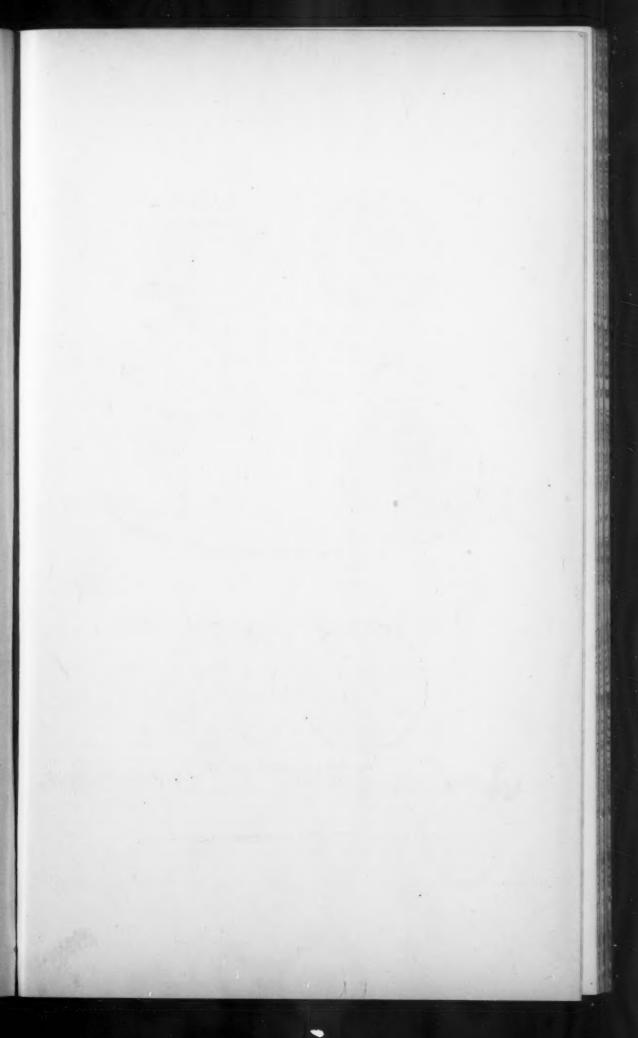
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APRIL 1st, 1884.







MEDAL OF AGRIPPINA.





MEDAL OF BASSIANO AND CAVINO.





PROPHETIC MEDAL OF CHRIST.

MEDALS BY GIOVANNI CAVINO.

AMERICAN

JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS,

AND

Bulletin of American Numismatic and Archæological Societies.

VOL. XVIII.

BOSTON, APRIL, 1884.

No. 4.

ANCIENT GREEK COINS.

BY BARCLAY V. HEAD.

Assistant Keeper of Coins, British Museum.

[Continued from Vol. xviii, No. 2.]

Alexander the Great.—Among the finest portraits on Greek coins we have space only to mention a few. First comes that of the great Alexander himself, on the coins of Lysimachus, idealized no doubt, but still the man in the likeness of a god. In many of these coins we may note the peculiarities recorded as characteristic of his statues by Lysippus, the slight twist in the neck and the ardent outlook in the eyes.

Demetrius Poliorcetes.—Then there is Demetrius Poliorcetes, the destroyer of cities, that soldier of fortune, terrible in war, and luxurious in peace, whose beauty was such that Plutarch says no painter could hit off a likeness. That historian compares him to Bacchus, and as Bacchus he appears on the coins, with the goat's horn of the god pointing up from out the heavy locks

of hair which fall about his forehead.

Philetaerus.—Another highly characteristic head is that of the eunuch Philetaerus, the founder of the dynasty of the Attalid kings of Pergamus. Here, at last, is realism pure and simple. The huge fat face and vast expanse of cheek and lower jaw carry conviction to our minds that this is indeed a living portrait. To those who are familiar only with Greek art in its ideal stage, such faces as this of Philetaerus, with many others which might be cited (Prusias, King of Bithynia, for example), which we meet with frequently on the various Greek regal coins, will be at first somewhat startling.

We have become so thoroughly imbued with the ideal conceptions of divine humanity perpetuated in Greek sculpture and its derivatives, that when we first take up one of these portrait-coins of the third or second century B. c., we find it hard to persuade ourselves that it is so far removed from our own times. This or that uninspired and common-place face might well be that of a prosperous modern English tradesman, were it not for the royal diadem and Greek inscription which designate it as a king of Pontus or Bithynia, of Syria or of Egypt, as the case may be. Nevertheless, although

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I

an almost brutal realism is the rule in the period now under consideration, there are instances where the artist seems to have been inspired by his subject and carried away out of the real into the ideal.

Mithradates.—Thus the majority of the coins of the great Mithradates are probably unidealized portraits, somewhat carelessly executed, of a man scarcely remarkable unless for a certain evil expression of tigerish cruelty. But there are others of this same monarch on which, it is true, the likeness is unmistakably preserved, but under what an altered aspect! Mithradates is here the hero, almost the god, and as we gaze at his head on these coins, with flying locks blown back as if by a strong wind, we can picture him standing in his victorious chariot holding well in hand his sixteen splendid steeds, and carrying off the prize; or as a runner, outstripping the swiftest deer, or performing some other of those wondrous feats of strength and agility of which we read. This type of the idealized Mithradatic head also occurs on coins of Ariarathes, a youthful son of Mithradates, who was placed by his father on the throne of Cappadocia. This head, like that of Alexander, was afterwards perpetuated on the money of various cities on the shores of the Euxine.

Cleopatra.—We have space only to mention one other portrait, that of the famous Cleopatra on a coin of Ascalon. This is certainly no ordinary face, and yet we look in vain for those charms which fascinated Caesar and ruined Antony. The eyes are wide open and eager, the nose prominent and slightly hooked, the mouth large and expressive, the hair modestly dressed and bound with the royal diadem. The evidence afforded by these coins, taken in conjunction with a passage of Plutarch, who says that in beauty she was by no means superior to Octavia, leads us to the conclusion that Cleopatra's irresistible charm lay rather in her mental qualities and attractive manners, than in any mere outward beauty of form and feature.

Art Styles and Chronological Sequence of Greek Coins.—Quite apart from the intrinsic importance, mythological or historical, of the subjects represented on Greek coins, lies their value as illustrations of the archaeology of art. Of all the remains of antiquity, statues, bronzes, terra-cottas, fictile vases, engraved gems and coins, these last alone can, as a rule, be exactly dated. The political conditions and vicissitudes of the autonomous coinstriking states render it comparatively easy for us to spread out before our eyes the successive issues of each in chronological sequence. In the series of each town we may thus at once obtain a few definite landmarks, around which by analogy of style, we shall have no great difficulty in grouping the remaining coins. The characteristics of Greek art, in the various phases which it passed through, we do not propose, nor indeed is this the place to discuss. It will be sufficient to indicate the main chronological divisions or periods in which the coinage of the ancient world may be conveniently classified. These are as follows:—

I. Circa B. C. 700-480. The *Period of Archaic Art*, which extends from the art of coining down to the time of the Persian Wars.

II. Circa B. C. 480-415. The Period of Transitional Art, from the Persian Wars to the siege of Syracuse by the Athenians.

III. Circa B. C. 415-336. The *Period of Finest Art*, from the Athenian expedition against Sicily, to the accession of Alexander the Great.

IV. Circa B. C. 336-280. The *Period of Later Fine Art*, from the accession of Alexander to the death of Lysimachus.

V. Circa B. C. 280-146. The Period of the Decline of Art, from the death of Lysimachus to the Roman conquest of Greece.

VI. Circa B. C. 146-27. The *Period of continued Decline in Art*, from the Roman conquest to the rise of the Roman Empire.

VII. Circa B. C. 27-A. D. 268. The *Period of Greco-Roman Art*, from the reign of Augustus to that of Gallienus.

It is almost always perfectly easy to determine to which of the above periods any given coin belongs; and as a rule it is possible to fix its date within the period with more or less precision, by comparing it in point of style with others of which the exact date is known. Even a small collection of well-chosen specimens thus mapped out in periods forms an epitome of the history of art such as no other class of ancient monuments can furnish. It is true that not all coin art is of the highest order for the age to which it belongs. Often, indeed, it is extremely faulty; but, good or bad, it is always instructive, because it is the veritable handiwork of an artist working independently, and not of a mere copyist of older works. The artist may have been unknown perhaps, even in his own day, beyond the narrow circle of his fellow-citizens, but he was none the less an artist who has expressed to the best of his ability on the coin which he was employed to engrave, the ideas of his age and of his country, and he has handed down to all time, on the little disk of metal at his disposal, a specimen, *en petit*, of the art of the time in which he was at work.

The Greek Die Engravers. - There is good reason, moreover, to think that the persons employed to engrave the coin-dies were by no means always artists of inferior merit. During the period of the highest development of Greek art it is not unusual, especially in Magna Graecia and Sicily, to find the artist's name written at full length in minute characters on coins of particularly fine work; and it is in the last degree improbable that such a privilege would have been accorded to a mere mechanic or workman in the mint, hower skillful he may have been. In proof of this theory, that artists known to fame were (at least in the fourth century) entrusted with the engraving of the coins, the fact may be adduced that we find several cities entirely independent of one another, having recourse to one and the same engraver for their money. For instance, Evaenetus, the engraver of the finest of those splendid medallions of Syracuse, bearing on one side the head of Persephone crowned with corn leaves, and on the other a victorious chariot, places his name also on coins of two other Sicilian cities, Camarina and Catana; and what is still more remarkable, the Syracusan artist, Euthymus, appears also to have been employed by the mint of Elis in Peloponnesus. In Magna Graecia also we note that an artist, by name Aristoxenus, signs coins both of Metapontum and Heracleia in Lucania; and another, who modestly signs himself ϕ , works at the same time for the mints of Heracleia, Thurium, Pandosia, and Terina.

In Greece proper artists' signatures are of very rare occurrence; but of the town of Cydonia, in Crete, there is a coin with the legend in full $NEYAN-TO\Sigma$ $E\Pi OEI$; and of Clazomenae, in Ionia, there is a well-known tetradrachm, with a magnificent head of Apollo facing, and the inscription $\Theta EO\Delta OTO\Sigma$

ElloEL. Enough has been said to show that in the period of finest art there were die engravers whose reputation was not confined to a single town, and who were regarded as artists of the higher order, whose signatures on the coin were a credit to the cities for which they worked.

Unfortunately, not a single ancient writer has thought of recording the name of any one of these great masters of the art of engraving. Had they only known that thousands of these, in their time insignificant, coins would outlast the grandest works of architecture, sculpture, and painting, and would go down from age to age, uninjured by the lapse of time, sole witnesses of the beauty of a long-forgotten popular belief, or of the glory of some splendid city whose very site is now a desert or a swamp, it might have been otherwise. It is not, however, to be regretted that the old Greek engravers worked without any idea of handing down either their own, or their city's, or their ruler's glory to posterity. Had they done so, the coins would have furnished far less trustworthy evidence than they now do, and we should probably have had many ancient examples of medals like that famous one of modern times which Napoleon I ordered to be struck with the inscription,

" frappée a Londres."

Magistrates' Names on Coins .- Not to be confounded with artists' signatures on coins are the names of the magistrates under whose authority the money was issued. All such names are usually written in large conspicuous characters intended to catch the eye, while the names of artists are often purposely concealed, and are indeed sometimes so small as to be hardly visible without a magnifying glass. About the end of the fifth century, B. C., at some towns, though not generally before the middle of the fourth, magistrates begin to place their signatures on the money. Sometimes we read their names at full length, sometimes in an abbreviated form or in monogram, while not unfrequently a symbol or signet stands in place of the name. It is a matter of no small difficulty to distinguish such magistrates' signets in the field of a coin from religious symbols which are to be interpreted as referring more or less directly to the principal type. Thus, for instance, an ear of corn might refer to the worship of Demeter, or it might stand in the place of the name of a magistrate Demetrius. As a rule, all such small accessory symbols before the end of the fifth century have a religious motive, and the same symbol will be found very constantly accompanying the main type. But in later times, while the type remains constant, the symbol will be frequently varied. It must then be understood as the private seal of the magistrate entrusted with the supervision of the coinage.

Of the organization of the mints in the various cities of the ancient world we know very little. It has been proved that at some cities the chief magistrate placed his name on the money issued during his tenure of office: thus, in Boeotia, the name of the illustrious Epaminondas occurs; and at Ephesus we find the names of several of the chief magistrates, who are mentioned as such by ancient writers or in inscriptions. This was not, however, the universal rule; at Athens, for instance, the names of the Archons are not found on the coins; and at some cities the high priest, and occasionally even a

priestess signs the municipal coinage.

Greek Imperial Coinage. - Under the Roman Empire, from the time of Augustus down to that of Gallienus, the Greek cities of Asia, and a few in

Europe, were allowed to strike bronze money for local use. These late issues are very unattractive as works of art, and their study has been consequently much neglected. In some respects, however, they are even more instructive than the coins of an earlier age, which they often explain and illustrate. It is to these *Greek Imperial* coins, as they are called, to which we must have recourse if we would know what local cults prevailed in the outlying provinces of the Roman Empire, and especially under what strange and uncouth forms the half Greek peoples of Asia clothed their gods.

It is in this latest period only that we get on the coinage actual copies of ancient sacred images of Asiatic divinities, such as that of the Ephesian Artemis, with stiff mummy-like body, half human, half bestial, with her many breasts. It is not to be questioned that many such monstrous statues existed in various parts of Greece, sacred relics of a barbarous age; and that on great festivals they were draped in gorgeous attire, and exhibited to public view; but Greek art, as long as it was a living art, shrank from the representation of such images, and always substituted for them the beautiful Greek ideal form of the divinity with which it was customary to identify them.

These Greek Imperial coins are also valuable as furnishing us with copies of famous statues of the great period of art, such as that of the chryselephantine Zeus of Pheidias at Olympia, the Aphrodite of Praxiteles at Cnidus, and many others; and they are particularly interesting for the light which they shed upon the sacred games, Pythia, Didymeia, Actia, Cabeiria, and other local festivals and religious ceremonies, of which, but for our coins, little or nothing would have been known.

[To be continued.]

THE *HISTORIC*, VERSUS THE MERELY *SERIAL* IDEA, IN NUMISMATICS.

We print with great pleasure the following paper read before the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society. There is much in it, which has our hearty approval. By way of comment, we would call attention to the prices of three Cents of 1793, in *Numisma* for November, 1883, viz: \$100, \$200, \$100. For four hundred dollars one can obtain perfect specimens of the three varieties of the Cent of the first year. How much more would be necessary to add thereto all the differing dies of that year in the best possible condition?

My caption should perhaps be, some suggestions from the country, or from the southwest; confessing in advance that I have not been initiated into the experience and cultivation resulting from association with collections and collectors of coins at the greater centres of art and information in the east. While this general subject has interested me less than some other departments of Archaeology, I have been for years an amateur collector of coins and medals, and a student of their history, and some reflections from a distant and unconventional standpoint, in response to your worthy Secretary's invitation, may, I trust, prove acceptable.

The intense interest taken in completing sets or series of our own coinage, has seemed to me something of a mystery, partly due perhaps to local contagion, partly to the high market prices paid for a few rarities, and only partly due to the intrinsic merit of the subject. Each year of coinage is sought for with eagerness, over-nice shades of condition are instituted, new varieties are named, slight differences are magnified, an additional star—a cracked die—a mere difference of date—an irregular profile perhaps, all tending in some measure at least to place an over-estimate upon the

value of a series, as compared with the true historic value of such issues. This interest in the series is usually begun in the young collector of limited vision and means, who secures a set of cents perhaps after some months of industry, excepting the rare issues of 1799 and 1804. The inquiry of his brother collector as to whether he has these two dates, causes him no little unhappiness; not that they differ from the cents of 1798 or 1803, but without them his set is incomplete. He is like many travelers returning from abroad, when asked whether they saw some special object of interest, it may be unimportant, perhaps Michael Angelo's statue of Moses, or the sunrise on Mount Righi; to have to reply in the negative, seems to them quite humiliating, especially if they are assured that they have "missed the grandest thing in all Europe." The absorbing serial idea begun in the humbler collection is subsequently carried into the higher denominations.

The history of our American coinage must be, of course, of paramount importance to us - its colonials, its first national issues, its fine early dollars and its various denominations; but after securing, for instance, the well-defined varieties of halves and quarters, of dimes and half dimes, to strive after and pay excessive prices for merely rare dates, when the same general types and varieties can be easily obtained, should surely not be encouraged. Numismatists and dealers create this commercial value only upon the theory that such rarities have a special historic value, which is in fact not true. I have in my collection a very fine half dime of 1803, procured at trifling cost; why should the same coin, merely dated 1802, bring several hundred dollars? In 1878 I observed a half dollar of 1796 among some old silver in a London shop window; on inquiring the price of it, the shopman said it cost him two shillings, but that he asked four shillings for it. I did not expostulate with him, though at the time I was not fully aware of its home-market value. On arriving at New York, I was easily prevailed upon to part with it, by an industrious collector, who kindly offered me sixty dollars for it. I had very good half dollars of 1795 and 1797, in no particular differing from it, excepting as to the single figure "6." The amount I received for this mere rarity, would purchase something of far more value to my collection. For instance, a splendid twenty shilling piece of Charles I, a half dozen fine siege pieces, a "Tribute money" penny of Tiberius; perhaps all included, or a shekel of the time of the Maccabees and a royal gold stater of Philip of Macedon, the "regale numisma" of Consider the real numismatic value of such an exchange! Drop a coin of ancient Syracuse, with its exquisite Greek profile in high relief, into your drawer containing a set of our own half dollars—what a contrast! What beauty and history it will bring into the midst of the general dullness and monotony of this expensive series. The nice distinctions we make, and the displaying of drawer after drawer of our American sets of generally common-place coinage, are apt to excite unfriendly criticism, and limit the popular interest in this branch of Archaeology. Instead of regarding us as students of history, our friends may perhaps be cherishing the mental

reservation that we are a lot of cranks "given to the study of gimcracks."

The serial idea is also carried to the same extreme by our brother collectors of the autographic department. A simple receipt given by one of the patriotic men who happened to sign the Declaration of our Independence (though otherwise unknown to history) often commands a higher market value than some rare historic paper, or a fragment of original verses of some famed poet. The serial idea is of course the true one, if it represents also the historic idea. It forms the basis of systematic study. The series of colonials, of our general national coinage, the Roman Imperial series of sestertii, for instance, from Augustus to Gallienus, the general English silver series, from the Anglo-Saxon or Anglo-Norman kings down, (including the handsome crown pieces of the later sovereigns,) are lessons full of interest and study.

How few visitors at our National Mint at Philadelphia are attracted by our series sets of regular issue! The little so-called "Widow's mite" of Judaea, the forked and sword-shaped bronze pieces from China, or some unique historic medal or siege piece, generally make a more lasting and educating impression upon them. It has occurred to me, also, that our American collectors as a class devote them-

selves rather too exclusively to coins relating to our own history, thereby confining themselves to a field of investigation comparatively local and narrow. They thus also limit the study of Art in Numismatics,—a department of infinite attraction and usefulness. Many of our coins and medals are models of mechanical excellence, yet they generally lack artistic merit. They are deficient in beauty and originality of design. In future years, when, as we trust with some hopefulness, devotion to art may become a national characteristic, doubtless artistic excellence for its own sake,

will give more pleasure to collectors.

If you would have a commentary on our home monetary art, place some good type of the earlier Italian School, with perhaps its silver filigree border, or a medal of one of the Dukes of Tuscany or Parma, or the French Henry the Fourth by Dupré, or the later familiar gold-gilt funeral medal of Napoleon I by Montagny (these specimens are suggested by my own collection),—place one of these in your case of our American series of mint medals. The result will not be gratifying to our national pride. Even the "Libertas Americana" medal, dedicated by the French to our Independence during the Revolution, offers us a spirited model for improvement. How much more earnest is the lesson taught by even an electrotype of a decadrachm of Syracuse, with its classic head of Arethusa; or by the really majestic eagle on the reverse of the Ptolemy Soter of Egypt. How far more brilliant is its pose and air of freedom than that of our less royal and sometimes even plebeian bird that represents the standard American art of the past century. It seems strange that not even the French have been quite able to duplicate the effect of these antique treasures. Indeed, they have not been equaled in any time or country.

I would also venture the suggestion that the value of uncirculated and proof sets of recent coinage is also over-estimated by the average American collector. Some evidence of circulation is often the best proof of genuineness. A slight defacement should not necessarily depreciate. Our collections are not entitled to the same standard of perfection as engravings and statuary, excepting perhaps as to medals or coins valued chiefly as works of art. The neat hole punched in my fine half dollar of 1794 does not really lessen its value, or disturb my equanimity. The handsome representative of Liberty, the clear-cut date and the well preserved reverse, are there; all that is

historic is still there.

I had the very great pleasure a couple of years ago (through the energetic kindness of our American Consul at Naples) of having two houses at Pompeii especially excavated for me. One proved to be a small grocer's shop, and in the other we found a well-stocked ancient kitchen. Both afforded a rich store of treasures, but the Italian authorities guard even their innumerable duplicates with a jealous eye. I was permitted to retain only a piece of heavy cast window glass about the size of my hand, and a small bronze coin of the Emperor Nero. The condition and value of the latter would grade rather low at one of our coin sales. It was neither "uncirculated" nor "proof"; in fact its face was partly obliterated, but it has a higher numismatic value to me than many modern home-made varieties. How much less of historic interest there is in the half dollar of 1796 or the half dime of 1802 than in this little "third bronze" piece from Pompeii.

Nashville, Tenn., March 15, 1883.

An old Spanish milled silver dollar, as sharp and clearly cut as when coined, and evidently never circulated, is in the possession of State Treasurer Goodrich, says the Hartford (Ct.) Times. It was minted in 1770, and was buried either by British or Americans, during the Revolutionary war, near Newburgh. It is said that over two thousand dollars' worth of these and other coins were unearthed some years ago, and this coin among them, in an earthen jar. When Dr. Goodrich obtained this one, it was the color of old copper. On rubbing it up, it proved to be as fresh and bright as when it came from the Mint.

GIOVANNI CAVINO.

BY RICHARD H. LAWRENCE.

By the kindness of Mr. Lawrence, we are permitted to print with the accompanying illustrations, some extracts from his recent work on the medals of Giovanni Cavino. The book contains carefully prepared descriptions of one hundred and thirteen medals, and was printed for private circulation only. We learn, however, that Mr. Lyman H. Low, of New York, has persuaded Mr. Lawrence to allow a few copies of the edition, which was a limited one, to be placed on sale at the book-store of Messrs. B. Westermann & Co., 838 Broadway.

GIOVANNI CAVINO, an Italian medallist, contemporary with Benvenuto Cellini, was born at Padua in 1499 or 1500. We know almost nothing of his life. It is probable that his medals were all executed in Padua, where he resided until his death in 1570. He was buried in the church of San Giovanni di Verdara, and for a long time the stone bound by an iron ring, which he used in coining, was preserved in that church. He left a son, Vincenzo, who seems to have aided him during the last years of his life, and who probably continued to use his dies after his death.

Cavino's medals are very numerous. Many of them bear portraits of distinguished jurists of Padua and of professors at the University. But his best known and most numerous works are his imitations of Roman large-brass coins and medallions which are known as "Paduans."

The imitation of Roman art seems from an early period to have been traditional at Padua, which contained one of the greatest universities of Europe. The earliest Italian medals were struck in that city and are quite classical in style. In the case of Cavino, this close adherence to the style of his Roman models is very marked, and it prevented him from equalling the best medallists of his period as an artist in portrait medals. At the same time it enabled him to produce very perfect copies of Roman coins. In this last work he was assisted by his friend Alessandro Bassiano, a scholar and antiquarian of Padua, of whom little is known, except that he left in manuscript the lives of the twelve Caesars. We learn of their association from a medal struck about 1540 to commemorate the event.

One hundred and twenty-two of Cavino's dies have been preserved and are at present in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris. They were brought from Italy in the seventeenth century by Th. Lecomte, who obtained them from the Lazzara family of Padua, and who bequeathed them to the Abbey of Sainte Genevieve in 1670. They are described and illustrated by Claude de Molinet in his work, entitled: Le Cabinet de la Bibliothèque de Sainte Genevieve. Paris, 1692, folio.

Cavino's imitative medals were not originally designed as forgeries, and it was against his wishes that they were passed off as genuine antiques. But as such many of them found their way into the most celebrated collections of Europe, and were the subjects of numerous dissertations. Even during the present century several of them were regarded as antique by such numismatists as Mionnet and Barthélemy.

The greater number of the coins usually termed "Paduans" are cast from moulds, and are of little value and easily detected; but the pieces struck from Cavino's dies possess much artistic merit and are often not readily

distinguishable from ancient coins. There are, however, several general points of difference which become apparent after careful comparison with the genuine coins. The "Paduan" is usually too round and regular, and the flan is too thin; the dots of the border or engrailment are large and in irregular relief; the letters are flat and square, especially N; M is broad at the base and narrow at the top; H and D are square and heavy, and A and V are too narrow and sharp. The coins struck by Cavino himself (the dies were used after his death) are usually composed of red and yellow copper, poorly alloyed. Several of Cavino's medals are found in silver; but most of the examples in this metal have been melted down in later times, consequently but few of them have been preserved.

All of Cavino's medals are rare, imitative pieces as well as portrait medals, and all are worthy of preservation as the work of an Italian medallist of the sixteenth century.

We append, from Mr. Lawrence's work, the following descriptions of the medals, engravings of which illustrate this number of the Fournal.

Obv. AGRIPPINA · M · F · MAT · C · CAESARIS · AVGVSTI. Bust of Agrippina to the right, draped.

Rev. S. P. Q. R. MEMORIAE AGRIPPINAE. Carpentum to the left, drawn by two mules.

Large-brass. Imitation of a genuine coin. Montigny, 6, and illus. on p. 400. Cohen, I, p. 142, No. 1; 2d Ed., I, p. 231, No. 1.

Obv. ALEXAND BASSIANVS · ET · IOHAN · CAVINEVS · PATAVINI Jugate busts of Alessandro Bassiano and Giovanni Cavino to the right, in Roman dress.

Rev. CERERI · LEGIFERAE. Ceres standing to the left, holding cornucopia and book of laws.

Dia. 37 m. Armand, 9. Montigny, 70.

Obv. PORVS · CONSILII · FILIVS.—IOANES CAVINVS. Bust of Christ to the right, draped.

Rev. OMNIA · SVRSVM · TRACTA · SVNT. Christ on the cross, at the foot of which are Mary, Mary Magdalene, and John.

Dia. 37 m. Zeitschrift für Numismatik, VIII, 1881, p. 119, ills. The obverse inscription is explained by a passage of Plato (Symp. 203 b. c.), where mention is made of a mythological person called Πόρος, "the way," the son of Μῆτις, "Counsel," and Zeus. This Porus, married to Penia, "Poverty," begat Eros, "Love." Plato's myth has thus been seized upon by Cavino, as a beautiful and poetic prophecy of Christ.

DISCOVERY AT CORTONA.

An interesting archaeological discovery has been made at Cortona, near the site of the battle of Thrasymene. Some excavations on the side of a hill have brought to light the remains of a large building of the Imperial age. The tesselated mosaic pavement, with ornaments in black, the coins, fragments of vases and marble with inscriptions, suggest that the building was a villa of the Republican times which had been rebuilt under the Empire. From a cinerary urn with Etruscan inscriptions, it is thought that the site was originally that of an Etruscan tomb. The coins found included an uncial assis and money of the time of Maximin. A Roman burial-place, consisting of twenty-four tombs, in some of which skeletons were found, had evidently been examined by previous explorers. A lady's silver mirror, in perfect preservation, had, however, escaped their observation.

MONEY OR SCRAPER.

To the American Antiquarian Society at its meeting in October, 1882, Mr. Frederick W. Putnam made a communication, in which he tries to overthrow the opinions held for three centuries as to the use and meaning of certain pieces of copper, illustrated in the *Journal*, V, 25. Mr. Putnam holds by merit and with honor the position of Curator of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology, and his views are entitled to very serious study. But I think he utterly fails to show reasons why we should consider these "coppers" to have been implements for any kind of work, the particular kind being, as he says, uncertain, though perhaps the scraping and shaping of pottery.

So far as I can learn, these curiously-shaped articles have always hitherto been thought to be part of the currency of the ancient inhabitants of Mexico. Now, while it is of course possible that all authorities in the past have been mistaken, it is not very probable, and strong reasons must be given for such change of attribution. In the *Journal* for 1870,* as above mentioned, I printed the arguments, or rather records, which lead us to consider these pieces of copper to have been current as coins. I omitted then, however, to quote a letter printed in the first volume of the *Numismatic Chronicle*, in which Mr. Arthur T. Holroyd describes the Hasshahshah or iron mushroom money as found by himself in circulation in Kordofan, Africa. This is absolute proof of the use of metal of the shape under consideration as currency. I may mention that equally curious or even more extraordinary shapes are found in the ancient money of China.

I have only still further to add, that Mr. Putnam's own communication to the American Antiquarian Society contains another accidental argument for me. He says that many of these "copper implements" were found "buried in a large earthen jar." These are the very words which have been and must be constantly used in describing discoveries of coins, ancient or medieval. They seem to me to show that these articles, even if not made for purposes of currency, had at any rate been put to that use, and had acquired a special value for the demands of trade.

W. S. APPLETON.

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT GREEK COINS.

A VERY interesting discovery of ancient coins was made some time since in the neighborhood of Carystos, in the island of Eubœa. In preparing the foundations of a house, there were found in an earthen vessel over seventy Athenian tetradrachms of pre-Roman times, three Athenian drachms, and thirty drachms of Carystos itself. One of the tetradrachms has in the inscription the names of the demos, and is believed to be a unique specimen of the kind. Between the death of Alexander and the Roman domination, the coining of money used to be entrusted at Athens to certain selected persons, who introduced their own names into the superscription; but this case would indicate that, occasionally at least, for some particular reason, the demos took the coinage into their own hands, stamping the name on the coins. Most of the other tetradrachms bear the names of Archons. Carystos, the modern Karysto, or Castel Rosso, is a seaport near the southern extremity of the island. Eubœan silver coins are all quite rare.

^{*} See also Yournal, XVI, 2.

THE INDIAN RUPEE.

Mr. Edward Thomas, whose labors as a numismatist have thrown so mnch light upon the archaeology of the East, has reprinted a paper upon the coinages of the East India Company at Bombay. The practical interest of the essay is the proof it gives of the continuous decrease that has taken place in the value of the rupee during the last two centuries. It seems that the Bombay Mint was first authorized by Charles II in 1676, "to coin rupees, pice, budgrooks," which should be current not only in the island, but in all the dependencies of the Company in the East Indies. This "Island of Bombaye" came to the English king by virtue of his marriage contract with Catharine, the sister of Alfonso VI, of Portugal, signed in the early part of 1662; and it was by him made over to the Company in March, 1662, together with its revenue of £2,833 per annum, and with the king's garrison of two companies of foot, who volunteered into the Company's service, and thus formed its first military establishment at Bombay. When the Company began to coin money they seem to have underrated the value of the local rupee, for the first specimen of their rupees bearing this denomination contains only 178 grains of silver, whereas a later one, dated 1678, contains over 183 grains, and one of the same last mentioned year as much as 198. The Indian rupees were estimated by writers in the earlier part of the seventeenth century as from 2s. to as high as 2s. 9d., and the average value seems not to have been much less than 2s. 6d. The decline in value of the coin is of course due to various causes not affecting India alone; but Mr. Thomas warns the theorists who talk of restoring silver to its old value in India, that the circumstances are now altogether altered; since, instead of the comparatively all-round trade of the old Company in goods and metals, we have to face "the leech-like heavy charges of the present Home Government, which draws indiscriminately for its own wants bills in rupees upon its hapless dependency, in season and out of season, whether the balance of trade or metallic exchange is for or against them."

JEWISH COINS AND MEDALS.

Mr. David L. Walter, of New York, a member of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, is now collecting material for a proposed work which he hopes to issue during the present year, on the medals (and coins, if any,) of the Mediaeval and Modern Jews, or relating in any way to them, or their history, uses and customs, and on pieces (including fabrications) bearing Hebrew inscriptions. Mr. Walter writes us that he would be very thankful for a minute description of any pieces of the character above mentioned, and a pencil rubbing or impression, as well as references to any illustrations, etc., in this branch of numismatics. It is not intended to include ancient coins, e. g. of Judaea; nor crowns or other pieces bearing merely the name of "Jehovah" in Hebrew; nor the Hebrew-Polish bracteates described by Polkowski, although should any numismatist be able to give descriptions of such pieces not mentioned by him, the information would be gladly received.

Any medals of Rabbis or distinguished Jews; of synagogues, or of other lewish buildings, or of societies; any relating to Jewish rites or ceremonies, or of events relating to or particularly affecting the Jews; even fabrications, such as rare varieties of the Moses or Christ pieces, and the large imaginary

shekels, are all within the purport of this work.

Should any reader of the Journal be able to aid Mr. Walter in this interesting department of coin study, which so far as we remember has never been explored to any extent, their assistance will be gladly received.

THE MONTREAL INDIAN MEDAL.

WE reprint by permission the following article, by Mr. R. W. McLachlan, which was read before a recent meeting of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, New York.

It is not definitely known when medals were introduced as helps in the furtherance of intercourse with the Indians, for those first issued for that purpose bore no special design. Medals struck to commemorate some episode in the life of the king, or local event in the history of the nation, were sent out from the mother country for this purpose; and the medals struck for the Indians, with one or two exceptions, were without date or any special inscription or device pointing out the object of their issue. Gathering some facts from documents of the time, we can safely conclude that this custom began about the close of the seventeenth century.

In the possession of an old Indian family belonging to the remnant of the Huron tribe, settled near Quebec, a medal struck in the reign of Louis XIV was found. In Vol. XI, page 93, of the American Fournal of Numismatics, this medal is claimed as having been especially designed and struck for the Indians. This statement I have always doubted, as I find it described on page 193, No. 462, in the Catalogue of the Musée Monetaire, as a medal commemorative of the birthday of the Duc de Berri.*

In the Parliamentary Library at Ottawa are a number of manuscript volumes containing such extracts, from the archives at Paris, as relate to Canada. Among them is a letter from Governor Vaudreuil, which, translated, reads as follows:—"21st September, 1722. I have received the letter with which the council has honored me and the twelve medals bearing the portrait of the king; eight small and four large ones. I have continued to be careful not to be too lavish with this favor among the Indians, and to give them only to those who by their services to the nation deserve them, and to those whom I desire to bind to our interest by this mark of honor." Further on there is a letter from Beauharnois on the same question, dated August 25, 1727: - "Since the death of M. de Vaudreuil, the Rev. Father Jesuits have not asked medals for the chiefs of the settled Indians, for whom it was customary for them to ask some. The Rev. Father de la Chasse, to whom the Marquis de Vaudreuil had given one, tells me it is absolutely necessary to provide some more. I have received proof of this. The Indians from above, when they come down to Montreal, would not relieve me from promising them to several who have served us well among their tribes. I pray you to enable me to satisfy these savages, and to send me a dozen small medals and six large ones. If this number is not sufficient for the year, I shall have the honor to ask some next year, but I shall take good care to cause them to be valued, and to give them only to those who shall deserve them on account of real services."

In 1859 two medals were turned up among other Indian remains, on the banks of the Ohio River. The older of these has on the obverse the head of George I, and the

Catalogue of the Musée Monetaire, but it is exceedingly probable that the Catalogue itself, printed in 1833, is wrong. The real medal on the birth of the Duc de is wrong. The real medal on the birth of the Duc de Berri is No. 275, and is also engraved in the Médailles

^{*} Mr. McLachlan is correct in this reference to the sur les Principaux Evenements du Regne de Louis le Grand, etc., etc., printed in 1702. In that volume the medal of 1603 is not mentioned, and perhaps every specimen had been sent to America.—ED.

other that of George II. The reverses of both have a representation of an Indian aiming at a deer. Another medal for the Indians is referred to in an article in the "Historical Magazine" for September, 1865, page 285, which states that:—"Sir Danvers Osborne, after he had been appointed Governor of New York in 1753, brought out, among other presents for the Six Nation Indians, thirty silver medals; his majesty's picture on one side, and the royal arms on the other. * * * * * * These medals seem to have disappeared; possibly a stray one may be found in some collection." In 1757 a medal was struck in Philadelphia, on which was represented a white man and an Indian smoking the calumet of peace. These medals were struck by the "Friendly Association for regaining and preserving peace with the Indians by pacific means," and were given by this Society with the view of preventing war with the aborigines.

From these quotations we gather that the giving of medals as a reward for services rendered, or with a view of securing and retaining the friendship of the Indians, had become general about the time preparations were in progress for the final conquest of Canada.

Another quotation brings us to the subject more immediately before us. In a private diary kept by Sir William Johnson, during a journey to and from Detroit, is the following entry. He is at Oswego, ready to sail on Thursday, July 21st, 1761:— "Got everything on board the vessel, then met the Onondaga chiefs. When assembled I bid them welcome; condoled their losses agreeable to custom; acquainted them with the reason of my not calling them to a general council since my return from Canada. * * * * * * Then delivered the medals sent me by the General for those who went with us to Canada last year, being twenty-three in number."

At the Bushnell sale last year, having purchased the medal described under No. 286 of the catalogue, although studying it carefully, I could not give it its exact location in the history of Montreal, until I came across the above item. I had seen the drawing of a similar medal, by Sandham, in his "Supplement to the Coins of Canada," but had never before the pleasure of handling an original; I had not therefore even begun to aspire to the owning of what, to a Montreal collector, could not prove otherwise than the gem of his collection—the oldest numismatic memento of his native city. The medal may be described as follows:—

Obverse. "MONTREAL": in the exergue, "DCF" stamped in a sunk oval. A view of a walled town with a body of water in the foreground, into which a small stream flows. There are five church spires ranged along the middle of the town, and a flag displaying St. George's cross to the right.

Reverse. Plain; "ONONDAGOS" is engraved in capitals across the field, and the name "Tekahonwaghse" in script at the top. Some one has, at a later time, scratched across the lower part with a sharp pointed instrument, in three lines: "Taken from an Indian | chief in the AMERICAN | WAR 1761." Size, 45 millimetres.

The medal described by Sandham, of the same design, was sold with the Wood collection some years ago, and twice subsequently. The inscription on the reverse is "MOHIGRANS" in the field, and "Tankalkel" at the top; metal, pewter.

The device and inscriptions on these medals leave no room for doubt that they were some of those given to the Indians in 1761 by Johnson; although Stone, in a foot note on page 144 of the Second Volume of the "Life of Sir William Johnson," states that "these medals, by order of Amherst, were stamped upon one side with the Baronet's coat of arms." I have never heard of the existence of a medal answering to this description; nor does it seem likely that the arms of a commoner would have been displayed on medals presented in the name of the king. There may have been some correspondence about the arms of the Baronet appearing on such a medal, and possibly the honor may have been offered to him: but on carefully studying the Montreal medal we see that, as the British flag floats from the citadel, and as it is stated thereon it was taken from an Indian in 1761, it could only have been made during that short interval. We know of no other occasion, during the year, for which this medal was likely to have been presented; nor was the government of those

times so lavish as to have two medals prepared for the same object. We may therefore safely conclude that the one given for services rendered by the Indians at the capture of Montreal, was the medal under description, and not one bearing the arms of Sir William Johnson.

When Johnson recommended the giving of these medals, he was so desirous of presenting them promptly, that there was not sufficient time to order them from England, and a colonial medallist was entrusted with the work. The highly appropriate design of a view of the captured city, was chosen, to which the recipient's name and the tribe to which he belonged was added. The device is far more suitable and much more interesting to us, as Americans, north as well as south of the forty-fifth parallel, than the conventional head of the king with his titles and arms. Had the order been executed in England, a more finished medal would have been produced, but we should not now be trying to interest ourselves over it as an American rarity. workmanship of this piece seems to be that of the moulder rather than of the die cutter; its whole appearance is that of a casting; yet, as the work of an American designer, it is highly creditable; for I take it to be the production of a New York silversmith. As a specimen of the state of the art in that city, one hundred and twenty years ago, it has its antiquarian as well as its numismatic value. The initials "DCF" * stamped on the medal after it had been moulded, stand for some forgotten tradesman of Gotham, who there successfully plied his craft in those old colonial days. I have been informed that specimens of plate, bearing this stamp, still exist in the city. The worthy silversmith, we may imagine, often referred with pride to the time when the victorious General, lately returned from the capitulation of Montreal, walked into his shop and gave the order for the rewards to be given to "Our faithful Indian allies."

The view of Montreal, given on the obverse, is by no means a correct picture of the town as it appeared in those days. The five churches then standing, had not all tall spires constructed after one design. This view must have been taken from some sketch by an officer accompanying the expedition, or from an illustration in a book of travels, drawn mainly from memory. The only view that I have seen of Montreal, representing it as it appeared at that time, will be found on page 438 of a work published by Harpers, entitled "Old Times in the Colonies." This view differs materially from that on the medal. Two churches only are shown; one, the Jesuits' church, has a square tower with long slender spires rising from each of the four corners; there are buildings shown on Point à Calliere; and the small island is wanting; fewer buildings also appear in the cut. With the exception of the superfluity of church spires and the absence of buildings on Point à Calliere, the view on the medal is more correct than in the cut. The city has changed since them; hardly one feature remains by which the old Indian warrior, who gallantly wore this medal before its walls, could now recognize it. The St. Lawrence in all its majesty still flows as rapidly by, but Point à Calliere can no longer be distinguished, River St. Pierre is converted into a sewer far out of sight, the island into a wharf, the churches torn down, and the walls levelled. Every attribute of war has been removed, and the green fields stretching up to Mount Royal, where the bristling armies bivouacked, is covered with the homes of two hundred thousand peace-loving citizens.

Tekahonwaghse, the recipient of this medal, is nowhere, to my knowledge, mentioned in history; he was a war chief, and at the head of his band of braves, led them through many a well contested battle against their inveterate foes, the Hurons. As a war chief he took no prominent part in the general council of the sachems, nor was his voice heard in the local gatherings of the tribe, the Onondagos, who formed part of the Confederacy of the Five Nations, inhabiting Central New York.

Judging from the medal given to "Tankalkel" of the Mohigans, we infer that his services could not have been valued so highly as those of the Onondago warrior, for

^{*} The same stamp is seen on an excessively rare medal of 1764, which has on one side the head of George III, and on the reverse the inscription HAPPY another medal intended for presentation to Indians.

his reward is in the baser metal. How one of that tribe came to receive a medal, is explained when we learn that seventy "River Indians" accompanied Johnson to Montreal. This was a collective name for the remnants of the Mohigans and other

Algonquin tribes, the aborigines of New England.

Reservations of these children of the forest are still to be found, here and there, in our land, but those of them who remain are fast losing their national characteristics, and are growing out of their minority into the full manhood of citizenship. Occasionally we meet, engaged in the avocations of peace, one of the children of those who were the makers of our early history, the chief actors in those stirring times—at one time the desolators of our early settlements, then the outpost in the defence of the Colonies against grasping aggression. Courted alike by Saxon and Gaul, they for a time held the balance of power in the struggle for the mastery in this continent. And now that the war-fire has ceased to burn in their bosoms, and the fierce war-whoop to ring from their lips, shall we not treasure, with all our veneration for the eventful past, this memento of those who helped on that final and overwhelming victory which has made our race dominant on this continent?

VERY AGED COINS.

TREASURING MONEY THAT WAS USED IN THE TIME OF MOSES.

[The following seems to deserve preservation as a numismatic absurdity. The original newspaper article was about as long again. Blunders are left uncorrected.]

One of the most valuable, rarest and most unique of private collections of antique and modern coins and medals, that is now in the possession of Mr. Charles Tochtermann, of No. 131 East Fifteenth street, New York, was lately seen by a New York Star writer. The collection embraces a series of coins from the earlier period of the Egyptians, from the time of Moses, thence to the Hebrew shekel, at the beginning of the Christian era, and following in close sequence down through the reigns of Roman, Greek and German emperors. There are coins from the early period also of the Carthagenians, Asyrians, Medes, Grecians and Macedonians. A complete set of coins from the time of Queen Elizabeth down to the present dynasty. A full set of coins of the United States from the year 1794, when the first coin was minted, to date. The medals are from all nations and ages, some of them, it is said, over 4,000 years old.

Mr. Tochtermann is sixty-five years old, and has spent forty years of his life in making this collection. He has traveled from "Greenland's icy shore" to Afric's desert waste, from the ruins of Pompeii to the catacombs of Rome, and through the forgotten glories of Egypt as shown in her ruins, to the Aztec mounds of Mexico. In fact, no country nor no clime but Mr. Tochtermann has seen. In this admirable work Mr. Tochtermann has been assisted by his charming wife, a lady as much and as enthusiastic a numismatist as her husband.

Through a mutual friend the writer was introduced to the collector of the curios, who appointed a day when the coins could be seen, as they had to be taken from the vaults of the Safe Deposit Company and brought to his house.

On the day appointed the writer was courteously received, and saw spread out before his gaze a collection that has seldom been shown to other eyes than the collector and a few intimate friends—not a half-dozen in all. 'As the collection stands its value intrinsically is estimated at between \$25,000 and \$30,000. They were of gold, copper, silver and other metallic substances, and a few, taken from the tombs of the ancient Egyptians, are of stone.

The first to attract the writer's attention was a splendid English silver medal, nearly three inches in diameter and one-eighth of an inch in thickness, which was struck off in honor of the nuptials of Charles I. and the Princess Henrietta. The design on one side represents a marriage scene, with two angels above crowning the parties. The reverse represents a field of battle, with Pallas coming down and presenting Bellona a branch of laurel. On the left is a curious piece of cannon of peculiar shape, with its muzzle pointed away from the two. This is dated May 12, 1641.

The next was a large silver medal representing a large field, with an angel hovering about and the inscription, "Ich, lassee dich nicht gens." The reverse side has the name of Anna Maria, Duchess of Saxony, with the year of her birth, 1627; marriage, 1647, and death, 1669.

One English silver medal of the Robert Leaper Perray family, new. These three medals are the only ones known to be in existence, and for which, at the time of the World's Exposition in Paris, 1867, at which Mr. Tochtermann was to have exhibited his exhibition, but, owing to want of space, declined doing so, he was offered £2,000 by Queen Victoria's agent.* He declined selling them, not wishing to break the collection. The medals are finely executed, and are as bright as if only a day old.

Among the ancient Hebrew coins is one of the time of Moses,† with Moses' head on one side in bas-relief, finely executed, and on the other, in Jewish characters, the first commandment. This coin is of bronze, in a fine state of preservation. There is also a Jewish shekel of silver, one of the same kind as is known as the "thirty pieces of silver" for which Judas betrayed Christ. On one side is an olive tree, with a Jewish inscription underneath, and on the other a vase of flowers.

Among the other medals are the following: * * * A gold medal in honor of Louis XV, a head on one side and a vessel on the other representing the harbor of La Rochelle, a city in the distance. Cannot be duplicated. A German medal, struck in commemoration of the famine in Europe, 1816-17. It represents a mother and two babes, who are crying for bread. The features, in their agony, are finely depicted. It is very rare. One silver medal, struck by order of the King in honor of deeds of bravery. Dated 1611. One silver medal, dated 1623. Very rare and fine. It is supposed to have been struck by order of the Monarch of Saxony. One silver medal of England, said to have been struck in the time of Queen Elizabeth. It has an indistinct Latin inscription.

There are also four medals of Napoleon Bonaparte, struck in celebration of his victorious return to Paris. They cannot be duplicated. One on his return from Russia, one on his return from Algiers, and one on his return from Italy. They are in a fine state of preservation, each having the head of the modern Hannibal, and if genuine, and there can be no doubt of it, will set at rest the dispute as to the precise shape of Napoleon's head, three being in profile and the fourth a full face.

There is also one medal of which particular mention should be made. It is older than the Crusades, and represents on one side the Virgin Mary and on the other a chalice. This is very rare and valuable.

Among the coins, as before mentioned, are coins of stone of the ancient Egyptians, curious and valuable, belonging to the different dynasties. There is one silver coin of Athens, a petradrachm, value, intrinsically, about seventy cents. One side has the head of Minerva, the other a large owl, both in deep bas-relief. Over the same face with the owl are the letters "O. O. E." It is supposed to be twenty centuries old, and cannot be duplicated in any private collection. One silver coin of the days of Alexander the Great, with his bust on one side, a number of copper coins struck during the reign of Emperor Maximus, Emperor Constantine I, Emperor Tiberius, Cleopatra, Demetrius, Ptolemius I, Probus and others. A Hebrew copper coin, about the size of a dollar, an eighth of an inch thick, supposed to be 4,000 years old; one silver shekel, Lewish money, dated 2506, supposed to have been coined in Jerusalem.

Jewish money, dated 2506, supposed to have been coined in Jerusalem.

Among the coins may be mentioned the following: * * * One silver crown of Louis XVI, dated 1792, of the French Monarchy. One of the last coins struck with the likeness of the martyr King; the last, in fact, struck under the reign of the descendants of Henry IV. Louis XVI was beheaded in 1793. One silver coin, "sex livres," 1793. "Regorede" on one side and "Republique France" on the other. A silver coin of Jacobus II, dated 1685; the only other specimen is in the British Museum, whose collection of coins, claims Mr. Tochtermann, is not as good as his.‡ Also a large lot of Spanish and Hamburg coins, of which very few are to be found anywhere. A Russian coin with the head of Peter the Great. Dated 1652.\$

The finest part of the collection and the one in which Mr. Tochtermann takes the most pride in is his series of American coins. He has in this collection coins from the first that were minted down to the present day. Many of them "proof." That is, without ever having been in circulation, and fresh from the mint, not a sign of tarnish on them, and all wrapped up carefully in fine tissue paper. As laid out before the writer's gaze, they comprised the handsomest set of coins in the whole collection. In this collection is a set of five-dollar gold pieces from 1795 to the present date.

^{*} With Dominie Sampson we must exclaim, "Pro-

t This is only inferior in age and interest to the shekel used in paying for Joseph, described in the *Journal*, Vol. XIV, p. 52. Mr. T. should obtain that, at any price, for his cabinet, as a companion piece.

[‡] We are in doubt whether Mr. Tochtermann's claim, or the reporter's ignorant credulity is the more stupendous.

[§] Only twenty years before the birth of Peter. Our printer has not exclamation points enough to do justice to this article.

A set of American silver of one dollars, from 1794 to 1804, which is claimed to be the only complete private collection in existence. From 1804 to 1836 the dollar coin was not minted, but the half dollars were. Among these dollars are two of the famous 1804 dollars, one of which sold recently for \$750. There is also a bronze dollar, or "pattern" proof, of 1851, the only one in existence. At auction this coin alone would bring \$100. In this collection are all the half dollars, the quarter dollars, the twenty-cent pieces, the dimes, the half dimes, the three cent pieces, two-cent pieces and pennies that have ever been coined. As a collection they cannot be duplicated, a number of them not even being in existence outside of this collection. The dollar coin of 1794 has a beautiful flying eagle on its face, and is in a fine state of preservation, being almost proof.

COMPTE RENDU.

SEVEN years ago an article appeared in this *Journal* giving an account of some of the more important *Recent Additions to the Mint Cabinet*. Since then no public account has been rendered (as now and then there should be) of the growth of this department, which was wisely established as a connecting link between the nearly related and mutually helpful studies of Numismatics and Minting.

Our little appropriation of three hundred a year permits us to extend our possessions, though Congress forbids us to extend our walls. Our cases had been crowded until we were in the position of a youth who feels awkward, because, while he is old enough to have outgrown his sleeves and his trousers, he is not yet entrusted with money to buy new ones; and his misease is only aggravated by the thought that his father is rich enough to carry on a large jobbing business, in which he is too much absorbed to recognize the needs of his child. What then could we do? Good Mother Necessity found a reserve of seams and tucks in our old suit, and we have been letting these out, until we are now much better clad and more comfortable. To drop the figure, the upright cases have had their old blue paper-covered slant-shelving torn out and replaced by a new series of beveled coin-rests, presenting something of the aspect of old fashioned window-blinds. Each bevel or slant supports but one row of coins and is just far enough from the perpendicular to insure stability. By this means we avoid the heavy shadows as in the old arrangement, in which the sloping shelves were broad enough to carry three rows of coins each. As it is, we gain several additional tiers and increase the cabinet accommodations by about one third. From the central round or horizontal case the black velvet has been replaced by stained wood, and a narrow beading substituted for the wider stripping which formerly divided the rows. Black velvet is liable to tarnish any metal surfaces in contact with it, and the stained wood background is more serviceable, if not so rich. All the new case interiors are of pine, stained to imitate mahogany. It would doubtless be better could we have had them of hard wood at once, but one does not have to be in the government service many years before he knows by intuition the truth in the Spanish proverb, "If you don't get what you like, the best way is to like what you get." And we do.

Now for a brief mention of some of the more important recent additions to the collection. It is unnecessary to speak of our own proofs and new cotemporary foreign issues, unless in allusion to the coinage of the Hawaiian Islands and of Bolivia, the dies for which were made here at the request of those governments. The last year has also witnessed a large influx of patterns, chiefly for the nickel coinage; the last addition being the new-old idea of a coin with a hole in the centre, and made from designs by Mr. Eastman Johnson, a noted artist and a highly intelligent gentleman, who is, as some believe, making a mistake in trying to force the adoption of a piece whose best claims are that it may be passed in the dark, and carried on a shoe-string.

It will hardly be deemed extravagant in the Mint to pay eighty-four dollars for a beautiful specimen of the Ameri Cent. Taking the view that the United States is best entitled to its own issues, we have enriched our collection with a 1797 quarter eagle; a half eagle of 1832; silver dollar of 1798, with small eagle and fifteen stars. Then there are a number of Colonials and early American pieces, from a Vermont baby to a

Granby stag. The permission of the latter to "Value me as you please" is rather a grim compliance in virtue of present prices. To offset some of these expenditures, it must be stated that the occasional rescue of good pieces from the melting pot goes on, though the opportunities for increasing the collection in that way are rare compared with what they were thirty years ago. Through this means we have lately obtained a Crown of Ferdinand of Bayaria, 1645, and a Thaler of Rhacus (Ragusa), 1794.

Under the head of Donations, we have from Quartermaster General Meigs a halfdollar and pistareen of Carolus and Johana of Spain. These pieces were presented to General Meigs at Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1870. The special interest attaching to them, is in their having been found on the beach of Padre Island, off the southerly coast of Texas. The supposition is that they were washed up from a sunken treasure ship, wrecked on the coast while carrying funds to the army of Cortez, who entered the City of Mexico in 1519. The good condition of the pieces seems to warrant our accepting this briny romance cum grano salis. Antiquarian stories must expect to stand the tests of the chemist as well as of the historian. This reminds me, however, of some specimens in our cabinet, from the wreck of the San Pedro, some account of which may not be uninteresting here.* "Early in 1815, a naval armament was fitted out in Spain by Ferdinand VII, for the purpose of reducing the rebellious colonies in South America. The military force of this expedition amounted to ten thousand men, of whom two thousand were on board the flagship San Pedro. This vessel was also freighted to a large amount with gunpowder, cannon balls and specie." The account then goes on to state that the fleet touched at the Island of Marguerita, near the coast of Venezuela. After leaving the island the vessel took fire, burnt four hours until the magazine caught and exploded, and the wreck went down with four hundred men. The right of working the wreck was granted about thirty years after to a Baltimore Company, known as the "San Pedro Company." Divers were set to work, and the wreck found in sixty feet of water on a hard bed of coral. Over this there was a deposit of mud, and again over this a layer of coral which had to be pierced to arrive at the treasure. The Spanish dollars recovered were sent to Philadelphia, and (up to Sept. 1848,) about seventy-five thousand dollars had been recovered and recoined. The dollars were much corroded and encrusted, the coating having first to be removed to bring the pieces into fit condition for minting; the loss by corrosion was considerable; one dollar, with the impression still visible, being reduced to thirty-four cents in value. In the light of these and other facts, it is difficult to conceive how the pieces found in Texas could have come so clean from their reputed bath of over three hundred years; but they are worth keeping for all that, and General Meigs has the thanks of the Republic for them.

From Mr. George S. Johnson of Dominica, we have something curious and quite scarce. Mr. Johnson, when on a visit to the Mint, seeing our Trinidad cut dollar, promised and subsequently sent us the recoined abstracted real. This singular little coin is shaped somewhat like a muffin, beveled and scolloped on the edge, plain on one side, and on the other a radiating ornamentation proceeding from a centre with a script D enclosing a star and a dot. The piece is called a moco—not a very pretty name for those who understand its primary significance, but secondarily it means a castaway, a worthless thing. It fits fairly into the hole whence it, or a piece like it, originally came. The nominal weight of the original round dollar was 413 grains. Our cut dollar weighs 338½ grains; the moco, 46 grains; short on both, 29½ grains.

Among our new medals, the most noticeable is the large specimen presented by the late Archbishop Wood. On the obverse a finely wrought bust of Pius IX, surrounded by the inscription Pius. IX. Pont. Max. an. XXIV. The reverse contains a circular pictorial representation of the coining room of the Papal Mint, with machinery in situ. This is surrounded by the inscription officina. Monetaria. Vrbis. Nobis. Operibys. Et. Omnigeno. Instrumento. Avcta. An. Mdccclix. In exergue, Josepho. Ferrari. Aer. Praef. I. Bianchi. F. Outside of the inscription are detached representations of various pieces of mint machinery, separated at regular intervals by ornamen-

^{*} From the Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, reported by W. E. DuBois in October, 1845.

tal tracery. Though somewhat mechanical, the perspective is good, the cutting clean,

the drawing accurate, and the effect as a whole artistic. The Superintendent has made a happy disposition of the elephantine hub-die of the Centennial Medal. Historic considerations forbade both its destruction and (the next thing to it) a consignment to oblivion. A special case has been made for it, and visitors can get some idea of what a "hub" is, while they are recalling the great events of the 'seventy-sixes. The case of selections has been re-arranged and a reference catalogue inserted, so that visitors having but little time may find there some of the most remarkable pieces, ancient and modern, in one view. The mullions of the cases have been removed and larger lights introduced. The work of removing, renumbering and replacing nearly seven thousand coins is both a responsible and a laborious task, for which Mr. McClure and his assistants deserve credit. The next move will be to intersperse explanatory labels, such as some of the cases have long contained, and without which the collection is of small value as an educator of the people. When this is accomplished we may re-echo the words of the founder, that "beside the appropriate endowment and ornament of the Institution, we have a permanent source of information on the whole subject of coinage; popular curiosity and educated taste are gratified; and researches into antiquities, arts and history are furnished with a new facility and stimulus.'

U. S. Mint, Philadelphia.

PATTERSON DUBOIS.

HENRY JERNAGAN'S SILVER CISTERN.

The following paper was read before the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society at a recent meeting. It supplies a "missing link" in the history of the Cistern Medal.

The so-called Carolina Medal, better known perhaps as the Cistern Medal, has long been a disputed piece. In the Fournal for January, 1869, (Vol. iii, p. 68,) reasons were given for what most numismatists now believe to be its true assignment; but, partly from the fact that no one seems to have learned very much about Jernagan, and still less about his cistern, which up to a very recent time has been entirely lost from sight or knowledge, this attribution is still doubted by a few. In Dr. Richard Meade's Catalogue, published in 1755, this medal is described, with the note, "This is Mr. Jernagan's Silver Medal, or Ticket, for the sale of his famous cistern." It seems to have been struck in gold, silver and copper (see Fournal, ii, p. 100). In the Lilliendahl Sale, Dec. 1863, this piece (No. 755) was described by Mr. Strobridge for the first time as a Carolina Medal, and the reasons for so calling it are given in full on the page of the Fournal last mentioned, with some comments by the late Prof. Anthon, who doubted the correctness of Mr. Strobridge's ascription, and first, we believe, called attention to the forgotten note, for which he acknowledged his own indebtedness to Mr. Cogan, - and further raised some queries as to who was Henry Jernagan, and what was his cistern. Mr. J. H. Taylor, in response, quoted from Knight's Pictorial London, iii, 87, a reference to a petition of Henry Jernagan, a goldsmith of London, who "had made a Silver Cistern, that had been acknowledged by all persons of skill who had seen the same, to excel whatever of the kind had been attempted in this kingdom: that, after an expense of several thousand pounds on the workmanship alone, exclusive of the weight in silver, and after great hazards in the furnace, and four years of application to the raising and adorning the model, the Cistern now remained on his hands." Jernagan asked to be allowed to dispose of it by lottery, and the medals which are now under consideration are the tickets. But what became of the cistern, or indeed what it was, no one seems to have been able to discover. I think, therefore, that all American numismatists will be interested to know something about the cistern, —and I take pleasure in sending you the following extract from a letter lately printed in the London Athenaeum, which I think satisfactorily answers these questions. How the cistern got to Russia does not appear, but possibly some contemporary account

of the drawing of the Lottery may yet be discovered, which would enlighten us on that point. The extract is as follows:—

The remarkable collection of reproductions of Russian art treasures in metal and other materials, which has been made by permission of the late Emperor of Russia for the Museum at South Kensington, will shortly be exhibited to the public. Included in it are many pieces of English plate of curious interest to those familiar with the history of our manufactures. The most striking of these is a great silver wine cistern, of most unusual dimensions—about five and a half feet long, and massive in proportion, the original weighing more than a quarter of a ton, and being made of the higher or "Britannia" standard. It stands on couchant leopards, and is decorated in répoussé, with groups of young bacchanals, gracefully designed, playing around cars drawn by leopards, and the edge is wreathed with vine leaves and grapes. The original forms part of the treasure of the plate room in the Hermitage Palace at St. Petersburg, and is certainly one of the most remarkable pieces of English plate known to exist. It is hall-marked 1734-5; but besides the hall-mark there is a maker's mark, a shield bearing a mitre and the letters K. A. beneath. This has now been identified by Mr. Henry Rollason, of Messrs. Elkington's, as the mark, specially registered for plate of the Britannia standard, of Charles Kandler, who carried on business in St. Martin's Lane in 1727, and afterwards in Jermyn Street, near St. James's Church. There is a large contemporary engraving of this great piece of silversmith's work, bearing the name "Henricus Jernegan Londini inuenit, 1735," and the weight, "octo millium unciarum," with the dimensions. Nothing of its history seems to be known in R ussia, nor was it, until selected by Englishmen for reproduction, suspected to have been made in London.

I have not learned of any other mention of the "contemporary engraving." Does any one know about that? It is curious that the Cistern should have remained so long in oblivion.

W. T. R. MARVIN.

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Dec. 7. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. The President appointed Mr. Davenport to be Auditor of the Treasurer's accounts for the year, and Messrs. Green and Crosby a committee to nominate at the annual meeting, Officers for 1884. Mr. Woodward showed several medals, including the war medal of the Punjaub, centennial medal of the battle of Groton Heights, medal of Bicycle Tournament at Springfield, 1883, and an impression in tin of a medal on the Peace of 1783, with inscription Respublica Americana, which is probably quite rare. The Secretary exhibited a second medal in commemoration of the Foreign Exhibition in Boston. The Society adjourned at 5 P. M.

Fan. 4, 1884. The annual meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. The President communicated a donation of several medals from Mr. Wm. H. Warner of Philadelphia, for which the thanks of the Society were voted. In the absence of Messrs. Green and Crosby, the President appointed Messrs. Slafter and Woodward a committee to nominate officers; they reported the former board for re-election, and their report was adopted, and Officers for 1884 chosen as follows: President, Jeremiah Colburn; Vice-President and Curator, Henry Davenport; Treasurer, Samuel A. Green; Secretary, Wm. S. Appleton. Dr. Green afterwards expressed his unwillingness to serve longer as Treasurer. Mr. Woodward showed a curious oval copper badge with words "City of Charleston," and a cap of Liberty inscribed "Free"; it is supposed to have been worn by free negroes. The Secretary exhibited a few pieces, including duplicates of Nos. 244, 528, 881 of the Ely Collection, in the catalogue of which they are stated to be of great rarity. The Society adjourned at 4.45 P. M.

Wm. S. Appleton, Secretary.

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Regular meeting, Jan. 15, 1884. President Parish in the chair. Miss Rachel T. Barrington and James B. Wilson, Jr., of New York, were elected Life Members. Acceptances have been received from Corresponding Members Patterson DuBois, William Talbot Ready, and Carlos Carranza; also from Dr. Julius Friedlaender, and John Evans, LL. D., as Honorary Members. The deaths of Resident Member Sigimund K. Harzfeld and Honorary Member Francois Lenormant were announced. The Executive Committee proposed an amendment to the By-laws increasing the number of officers, which was adopted. Prof. Woolf, Chairman of the Anthon Medal Committee, stated he had received forty-four subscribers to the Medal. The Curator reported a number of donations from Messrs. A. S. Sullivan, T. A. Kohn, Wm. H. Key, A. C. Zabriskie, Mrs. Meyers, and Mrs. Solomon Woolf; also a large number of coins and medals from Pres. Parish, from which he was to select such specimens as were needed for the Society's Cabinet. The special thanks of the Society were voted to Pres. Parish for his donation; also to Mr. Zabriskie for his valuable donation of a silver medal of Napoleon I, commemorating a victory over the Germans. Mr. Lawrence stated he had received information that the Fac-simile Collection would be shipped from London early in February, so that we should have them in time for exhibition at our annual meeting. Pres. Parish appointed Messrs. James Oliver, Lyman H. Low, and John M. Dodd, Jr., as a Nominating Committee. A paper entitled "The small Stone Graves in White County, Tenn.," by Corresponding Member John B. Lillard, M. D., of Nashville, Tenn., was then read, and a special vote of thanks was adopted for his interesting Pres. Parish exhibited a small oval silver medal with ring: Bust of Philip II to left, ins., "In all things faithful to the king"; rev., two hands clasped, ins., "Even to wearing the beggar's wallet." (See Van Loon under date 1566, and Motley, Vol. I of Dutch Republic, page 520.) Mr. Doughty exhibited a book entitled "A List of the Cabinet of Samuel Veyrel, Apothecary at Xaintes, with an essay on the antiquities, &c.," printed in French and Latin, Bordeaux, by Pierre de la Court, 1635, and bound in vellum. Adjourned.

Special meeting, March 1, 1884. Pres. Parish presiding. The President stated, that as the Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art had recently expressed an opinion to the effect that the result of the trial of Feuardent vs. Cesnola had been a complete vindication of the latter, therefore at the request of several members of the Society he had called this special meeting. The following resolutions having been presented, were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, Our fellow member, Mr. Gaston L. Feuardent, a gentleman with a well established reputation as an expert in regard to the authenticity of objects of antiquity, seeing reason to question the genuineness of certain Cypriote sculptures in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and disapproving the treatment to which the objects in the Cypriote collection generally were subjected by their custodians, made his criticisms public, and thereby subjected himself to attacks upon his personal character and his professional reputation; and

Whereas, In order to defend his character, and in the interest of truth and justice, he was forced to carry on a lawsuit against one of his defamers at a heavy expenditure of money, and a great sacrifice of time; and

Whereas, Through his self-sacrificing efforts, the true history and character of a costly and celebrated collection of sculpture have been established, and a pernicious system of repairs and restorations has been thoroughly exposed; therefore be it

Resolved, That the evidence elicited during the course of the late trial has but heightened the favorable opinion we have always entertained respecting our fellow member, Mr. Gaston L. Feuardent, and has strengthened our confidence in his ability as an expert, his integrity of purpose, and his unselfish devotion to the truth, and we hereby express the belief that as a knowledge of Art and Archaeology is more widely disseminated in this country, the views held by him, in common with every archaeolo-

gist of any repute in Europe, respecting the treatment of antique objects will be accepted here as the only correct views, alike by scholars and by those who shall have

such objects in their custody; and be it also

Resolved, That this Society deeply regrets that it should have fallen upon Mr. Feuardent to bear alone the burden of a suit undertaken largely in the true interest and for the benefit alike of the Metropolitan Museum and of the general public, and we hereby tender him our thanks for his valuable services to Art and Archaeology, and assure him of our sympathy with his aims, our appreciation of his character, and our sense of his value as a member of this Society.

On motion, copies of these resolutions were ordered to be sent to the public press and to the different museums in this and other countries, and a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Cyrus J. Lawrence, Daniel Parish, Jr., Richard S. Ely, and William Poillon, were appointed to present an engrossed copy to Mr. Feuardent on behalf of this Society.

These minutes being approved, on motion adjourned.

WM. POILLON, Secretary.

NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA.

At the meeting March 7, 1884, Mr. Henry Phillips, Jr. read a communication upon prehistoric "Cannibalism in Germany," based upon the discoveries in the cave at Holsen, in Brunswick. Mr. John R. Baker read an obituary notice of Sigmund K. Harzfeld, a lately deceased member of the Society. The Historiographer announced the deaths of John Denison Baldwin, of Worcester, Mass., on July 8, 1883, in his seventy-third year; and also of Miss Eliza Susan Quincy, of Quincy, Mass., on Jan. 17, 1884, in her eighty-sixth year, both corresponding members of the Society.

A communication was read in reference to a lately discovered coin of Caesar, with the inscription, "Veni, Vidi, Vici." Mr. Philip H. Law read a paper on "Secret Societies" as preservative of rites and usages. Mr. Francis Jordan, Jr. read a paper on recent archaeological explorations and discoveries made by himself in the lower part of Delaware, illustrating the subject by a map of the locality, and by some fine Indian

stone mortars and a remarkable pipe, all of which he presented to the Society.

Mr. John R. Baker exhibited a remarkable book, formerly the property of Rev. C. P. Krauth, in the Pali language, being incised upon narrow strips of palm which open like a fan. Mr. Baker was requested to obtain a translation of the work if practicable. A fine painting representing an Indian pueblo was presented to the Society. Senor Penapil presented a remarkable engraved stone tablet from Mexico, and Mexican coins. Mr. James Deans, of Vancouver's Island, presented some Chinese coins lately found there in a tumulus, supposed to be thousands of years old.

FINDING ROMAN MONEY.

A curious thing about the excavation of the ruins of the Atrium Vestae, at Rome, to which reference was made in the last Journal, was the discovery of a number of Anglo-Saxon coins, dating from 901 to 946. How did these foreign pieces happen to get dropped in the heart of the Eternal City? This puzzle is rather more difficult than that involved in the finding of pieces of Roman money in every part of Europe. But the number of ancient Roman coins dug up here and there is astonishing. A few years ago borings on the brink of some rather well-known hot springs in the east of France brought to light no fewer than four thousand seven hundred Roman coins. Four of these were gold coins of Nero, Hadrian, Faustina, Jr., and Honorius; two hundred and sixty-five were silver coins, principally of imperial and consular types,

associated with a few Gaulish coins. Of bronze there were as many as four thousand four hundred and sixty-eight—large, middle and small brass—ranging over a considerable period. With the coins were associated other objects, such as statuettes, pins and rings, in bronze, gold, lead and iron. What does this mean? Simply that well-to-do Romans were quite as much in the habit of resorting to thermal springs for pleasure and profit as millionnaires of our own day.

FINDING TREASURE NEAR BOSTON.

The coin dealers of Boston, and some of the jewellers also, have lately been buying old gold pieces, which on investigation prove to have been found on the north shore of Boston Harbor, near Grover's Cliff, in the vicinity of Beachmont. Some of these pieces were English guineas, others were Portuguese "Joes", and appear to have been struck a century or more ago. The discovery of these coins caused considerable excitement among the residents of the neighborhood, and quite a number of pieces have been picked up, though how many it is difficult to estimate. One of the newspaper accounts fixes the sum at \$300. They are found on the beach, as if they had been uncovered by the tide, or as if some receptacle containing them, which had been buried years ago, had been broken by the action of the waves and its contents scattered here and there along the shore. The place itself where they were buried, if that be the correct theory for their presence, has not, so far as is known, been ascertained, but it is said that all have been found in a space 70 feet square, and about 100 feet below high water-mark—the beach sloping very gradually, and a large expanse being left bare at low tide. The most valuable "finds" have been of pieces valued at \$50, by the children of the Rev. Mr. Gaffield, of Beachmont, and by Mr. Charles Fredericks of the same place, who has picked up a Spanish coin weighing about twenty pennyweights, and an English guinea of the year 1737. Mr. G. W. Harris found a gold coin about the size of a double eagle, but quite thin, the condition of which was about as perfect as when it first came from the die, although more than a century and a half old. It was twenty-two karats fine, and its value was between eight and ten dollars. Even the milling on the edge of the coin showed but little sign of wear, while the device on each of the faces of the coin was remarkably sharp and clear. The obverse was the Portuguese coat of arms surrounded by the inscription "IOANNES V D G PORTETAL Within the circle formed by this inscription and flanking the coat of arms on the left were the figures 4000, a group of heraldic flowers occupying the opposite space. The reverse presented a Greek cross with a capital B in each of the four spaces made by the arms, the date 1720 surmounting the device, and the inscription, "In Hoc Signo Vinces," surrounding it. Considerable speculation has been caused by the discovery, but whether it was a pirate's hoard, which is the favorite explanation with some, a miser's secret, or the unlawful prize of some robbery, remains a mystery. The beach was dotted with groups for several days, searching for "Capt. Kidd's treasure," which this could not have been, as that notorious pirate was hung about twenty years before the earliest date mentioned on any of the coins yet discovered.

VARIOUS COIN FINDS.

SEVERAL silver pieces have been plowed up at Alburgh, Vt., about the size of an American silver dollar, having on one side the coat-of-arms of Spain surrounded by the words "Hispan (on some of the smaller pieces the full word 'Hispaniarum'), Et. Ind. Rex. M. 8 R. F. F;" on the reverse, a bust surrounded by the words "Carolus III. Dei Gratia" and the date. Some of the smaller coins have instead of "Carolus III," the words "Phillippus V. D. G." Among them was also a gold coin somewhat larger than the American ten-cent piece, but quite thin. On one side surrounding a bust are

the words, "Joannes V. D. G. Port. Et. Aig. Rex.," on the reverse the coat-of-arms and the date—1726.

An iron box filled with English shillings was found in the well of Reuben Clough of Warner, while it was being cleaned recently. The well, which is thirty feet deep, had not been cleaned for half a century. In repairing an old house at Gouldsborough, N. C., three ancient coins were found under the front door, being probably placed there when the house was built, nearly one hundred years ago. Two of the coins bore date of 1775, the other date, from age, could not be made out. It was an old custom in those days to place one or more coins under the door-post for "good luck." A Roman tower in the Sablon quarries, in Lorraine, has been partly unburied and searched. Among the ruins were found a number of interesting relics; statuettes, coins, inscriptions to pagan deities have been brought to light, and they tend to show that some of these belonged to the Roman legions stationed in Lorraine from the year 50 to 300 of the Christian era.

We cut the following from a newspaper: -

A discovery of great value in the field of numismatics has lately been made in Spain. Among some ruins in a little village in the Tarragona district, where some excavations were being made, a number of old Roman coins were unearthed. Some of these, fortunately, came into the hands of the priest of the neighborhood, and among them he found a brass medal bearing on one side a profile head in sharp relief crowned with laurel, and with an inscription, "C. Caesar, Dictator." On the obverse, in three lines, was the famous legend, "Veni. Vidi. Vici." surrounded by a laurel wreath. After very careful scrutiny, it was stated on unexceptionable authority that this curious medal, which is mentioned in Roman history, is a perfect and unique specimen of its kind in relation to Julius Caesar and his famous dispatch to the Senate of Rome in announcing his victories.

This "unexceptionable authority" would have considerable difficulty in showing any passage "in Roman history" where such a medal is mentioned, or in demonstrating that it is a "unique specimen." The description of the reverse (obverse as it is called above) corresponds so closely with Mr. Lawrence's I, in his imitative medals of Giovanni Cavino, viz: "Rev., VENI. VIDI. VICI. in three lines, within palm and laurel wreath," that we have little doubt it is one of these Paduan pieces. "This reverse," says Mr. Lawrence, "is not found on ancient coins. See Cohen, VI, p. 256. Keary, 117."

NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE TAMMANY MEDAL.

In the Journal, Vol. xiii, p. 102. was a brief description of a medal of the Columbian Order, (that is, the Tammany Society,) with a query as to what it was, and its ownership. In the following number was a brief reply giving the proper description, but no light as to its ownership. I notice in the recent sale of the collection of Mr. J. C. Hills, of Hartford, Conn., there was one of these Medals offered at a limit of \$50, but it does not appear to have been sold. The description shows that the obverse bears a coiled rattlesnake, above which on a scroll is the word beware. The legend is columbian order instituted 1789, the date being in exergue. The reverse has a scene representing Columbus holding the Spanish flag and shaking hands with an Indian chief, who is smoking a pipe, the early representative of one of the Tammany Sachems, or perhaps of old Tamenund himself. In the distance is a ship. Legend, where liberty dwells there is My country, and in the exergue the date oct. 12, 1492, which is the day on which Columbus landed on San Salvador. (The former querist gave this date as 1792.) The reverse gives also the name of the die cutter, I. Pearson in exergue. In the original query this Medal was thought to be unique.

COLONIAL PRIZE MEDAL.

APPENDED to a publication of the Society for Promoting Art and Commerce in the British Colonies, was an engraving of a Prize Medal, London, 1762. Dr. Jared Elliot, Rev. Thomas Clap, Benjamin Franklin and others were appointed the Society's correspondents.

Can any of your readers give a description of it?

COIN SALES.

WOODWARD'S SALES.

THE ELY COLLECTION.

SALE No. Sixty-two was held at the usual place in New York, January 8, 9, 10. The prices realized were large, and the sale was well supported throughout. We quote a few lots as follows: Dollars.—1797, \$57; 1794, bronze proof, unique, 130; 1838, 48; '39, 47; '51, 51; '52, 42; '56, proof, 35. Half Dollars.—1796, perforated, fine, 25; '97, 35; 1820, proof, 9.50; '24, proof, 5.25; '29, proof, 5; '36, milled, pr., 17.50. Quarter Dollars.—1823, 60; '27, magnificent proof impression, 215; '53, without arrows, fine, 8.50. Dime.—1804, 10.25. Half Dimes.—1794, 23.50; '95, nearly proof, 10; 1802, good, 40; '05, fine, 19. Proof sets of Minor Coinage.—1864, 2.50; '65, 2.50; '67, 1.10; '68, 1.55; '73, 3.50; '77, 3.75. Dime, 1792, 26. Three Pattern Half Dollars, 1838, respectively 21, 17, 30. Cents.—1793, rev. Ameri, 56; '93, Liberty cap, 18.50; '95, thin, 12; '97, 11; '99, 33; 1809, uncirculated, 26.50. Half Cents.—1793, 14.50; '96, 22. Eleven of the rare Half Cents, 1831 to 1848 inclusive, sold for an average of 11.40 each, 1842, a restrike, bringing the highest price. The nearly full line of gold coins sold well. Eagles.—1797, 30.50; '98, 26.50; 1804, 29.50. Half Eagles.—1795, rare variety, 35; '97, 26; do. rev. small eagle, '34; 1824, 41; '28, 26. Quarter Eagles.—1796, without stars, 8.80; same, with stars, 50; '97, 40; 1806, 18.25; '26, 14.25. Proof sets in gold, 45 to 56. Proof sets sold unusually well: 1850, 36; '55, 45; '57, 27.50; '58, 36. Amongst Colonials, etc., we note 1786, Vermont Cent, unc., 9; 1785, Immune Columbia, silver, 50; same, copper, 23, both extremely low; 1787, Liber Natus, 75; 1787, George Clinton piece, 1737, Higley Copper, 50; Washington's 1792 Half Dollar, silver, 60.50; same, copper, 40. A very interesting feature of the Catalogue was the English gold. An Edward III Noble sold for 12.50; Henry VI Noble, the same price; Richard III Angel, 16. Henry VIII Sovereign, 66; another, 16; Elizabeth Sovereign, 37; Charles I Three Pound piece, 40; Commonwealth Sovereign, 16.25. The English silver was fine,

Sale No. Sixty-three was held at the same rooms March 4, 5, 6. This sale was made up of several consignments: one from New Mexico, one from old Mexico, another from California, and others from various places. The first from Winslow J. Howard, of Silver City, New Mexico, a selection, 259 lots, sold well. The same may be said of the next consignment, extending to lot 391, followed by another from California. "An American Collection," extending to No. 1265, we understand was drawn from Mr. Woodward's ever plethoric stock, and comprised the usual variety of gold, silver and copper found in most American collections. The feature of greatest interest was the Holstein Collection. This comprised nearly 5000 pieces, representing nearly every nation and state that ever issued coins. They were selected by a judicious numismatist. There were scarcely any duplicates; nearly all were in good order, but the entire collection contained scarcely half a dozen pieces of the value of a dollar each: still the sale held a company uncommonly numerous, interested for about four hours, and in its result was most satisfactory. We forbear to quote any prices, not because there are not plenty worthy of mention, but because we have given so much space to other sales. A fact of interest to Mr. Woodward personally is that the sale was very remunerative, affording him a larger profit than many sales of much greater magnitude.

Sale No. Sixty-four immediately succeeded No. Sixty-three at the store of Messrs. Bangs & Co. The Collection was miscellaneous in character. Starting off with a Numismatic Library of several hundred volumes, the auctioneer led us through various invoices quite bewildering in their variety: Confederate Publications, Local History, Trials, Autographs, Old Play Bills, Stamps, Marble Statuary, Prehistoric Stone Relics, American and European, in all their great variety, Ethnological specimens, Pipes, Weapons, etc., of savage tribes, Netsukes, those quaint old carvings of Japan, Boxes and Curios, Confederate Currency, and last of all a collection of Coins. All this property was satisfactorily disposed of in the course of two afternoons by Mr. Merwin, the Auctioneer. The books brought good prices. Five volumes of the Tresor Numismatique, recently imported by Mr. Woodward, sold for \$16 a volume, certainly a moderate price when we consider that the binding alone would cost in New York about \$20 a volume. As usual, Mr. Woodward's series of Catalogues commanded at auction about the prices at which they may be bought of him at private sale, a most unusual feature for catalogues printed in great numbers and freely given away. Passing over other parts of the sale, we merely remark that the prehistorics sold even better than usual, and the Japanese carvings brought good prices; these objects are so little known that it was supposed they might be thrown away, but their sale was quite remunerative. It would be interesting to review the sale, but it is not quite within the scope of this work; but we must not forget to say that the coins at the end of the catalogue brought fair prices.

Sale No. Sixty-five merits mention here from the fact that it was one of the series. It comprised only a collection of engravings mostly of the Italian School, mainly of the last century. The prices were fair for the specimens offered, which were usually of ordinary quality. The sale took place on the 12th of March, at the rooms of C. F. Libbie & Co., No. 1 Hamilton Place, Boston.

COMING SALES.

Sale No. Sixty-six, the Springfield Collection, will occur at Messrs. Bangs & Co's, New York, April 24, 25, 26. The catalogues are now printed and on their way to Europe and California; they will be distributed to Mr. Woodward's American correspondents about April 8.

Sale No. Sixty-seven will comprise the Collection of Mr. J. N. T. Levick, recently purchased. This collection is probably richer than any other in Old American Store Cards, the series of Hard Times Tokens, Silver Store Cards and Copperheads. It is also quite full in the regular Mint series, especially in varieties, and rich in Politicals and the coins of Canada. In the latter department are several examples scarcely known in any other collection; amongst the Hard Times Tokens no less than seven or nine unique pieces; amongst the Old Store Cards dozens of pieces that never appear in sales; full sets of the Mott Tokens; the Talbot, Allum & Lees; the Belleville Tokens; the Schoonmackers; the Wolf, Spies and Clark; the Feuchtwangers; the Treadwell and Kissam series, etc., etc., What we have mentioned is only a gentle appetizer for the collectors; if we should continue we would make them hungry, so we forbear. It will be offered towards the end of May.

A number of other sales are projected, some of which are in progress, the catalogue of one being already written; this latter a consignment from Germany.

SAMPSON'S SALE.

December 20 and 21, Mr. H. G. Sampson disposed of a collection of coins and medals at the rooms of Messrs. Bangs & Co., New York. The catalogue contained 46 pages and 1000 lots, but the sale was so near Christmas, that it did not attract the attention it deserved. We notice one of the Jernagan medals in silver, in fine condition, sold for \$1.15. A few English War Medals brought fair prices. A Dollar of 1855, br. pr., 20.25; one of '56, 16; Half Dime of 1794, perfect die, and v. f. and unc., 24; one of 1795, proof, 17. Standard Pattern Dollar, 1870, Indian queen, etc., pr., 7.50; another, same obv., but with rev. like regular issue, pr., 6.60; Proof set of 1870, 5 ps., rev. denomination in wreath, 16; another, same as last, but for following year, 17; Stella, gold, proof, 5.80. Lincoln and Garfield Medal, gold, proof, no inscriptions, size 17, and v. r., 10.25; some ancient Greek silver brought very good prices. Didrachm of Sybaris, Lucania, bull to left, 8; tetradrachm of Athens, head of Pallas, 8; tetradrachm of Alexander II, of Macedon, rev. Jupiter seated, 5.

J. C. HILL'S COLLECTION.

The cabinet of Mr. J. C. Hills, of Hartford, Conn., which contained one of the largest if not the best collection of War Medals, medals of honor, crosses, orders, decorations, etc., ever made in this country, with a variety of American and foreign coins and medals, was sold by Bangs & Co, Feb. 12-14. Mr Sampson prepared the catalogue, which was issued with a large margin, and very neatly printed. It numbered 80 pages, and 1560 lots. A proof of the Libertas Americana, by Dupre, in silver, \$27; the Germantown Battle Medal, slightly pierced, but otherwise v. f. and exc. r., size 28, 26.25. Bronze medal of Nath. Greene, Eutaw, size 36, limited at 25, brought 30. Fort Pickens Medal, from N. Y. Chamber of Commerce, 15.50; silver proof of the Assassination Medal, Congress to George F. Robinson, only two struck in this metal, 16.50. A rare medal of the Admiral Vernon series, in German silver, size 22, bust to the knees, 4.35; bronze proof of the "Upper Canada preserved," v. r., size 33, 12.50; Dollar of 1854, good for piece, 6.40; a doubtful quarter of 1823, 11. Some American gold of the earlier dates sold well. We notice the following: Half Eagle, 1802 over '01, 6.75; do. 1808, 9; '12, fine and sharp, 8.25. Quarter Eagle, 1805, plugged, 4; '24, v. g. and sc., 5.10; do. '31, pr. rare, 5.05; Bechler's Half Eagle, no date, Georgia gold, 9.80; do. North Carolina gold, fine, proof. 8.25. A curious engraved Masonic Medal, "Abner Kneeland initiated Jan. 3, 1804," oval, 27 x 43, fine, 2.05; a "Columbian Order" Medal, the Tammany piece, was catalogued, limited at 50, but was not sold. A Lincoln Medal "presented by Gen. Baker to Capt. G. Cottingham," bust of Lincoln, front face, proof, v. f. and unique, limited to 25, brought 42. A "restoration" of a '93 Cent, by Smith, 10. The Orders and War Medals brought prices ranging from a few cents for a Prussian to \$33 for the "Royal American Order of Isabella the Catholic," a Maltese Cross. (Burke, pl. 90.) The sale was a very successful one.

ISAAC F. WOOD'S COLLECTION.

MR. FROSSARD offered the cabinet of coins and medals which Mr. I. F. Wood has spent many years in gathering, at Bangs & Co's, on February 25th, 29th last, both days inclusive. This was Part II of his collection, and included Washington Coins and Medals—in which there were many rare pieces—American Revolutionary, political, historical, centennial and other medals, beside those of physicians, artists, etc., a number of American and foreign coins, and a very complete Numismatic Library. The Catalogue, which was much more attractive than that of Part I, sold some time ago, was a thick pamphlet of 188 pages and nearly 2900 lots. While the prices were doubtless much less than their cost to Mr. Wood, and frequently considerably below their market value, we suppose that few collections, especially where the lots comprised so many pieces as was necessarily the case in this, and the whole number was so great, can be made to realize even the moderate expectations of their owner. The space we can spare for a notice is so small in this number, that we can give only a glimpse of the sale. A Sword Dollar of James VI, of Scotland, 1567, very fine and rare, \$8; three Proclamation Medalets of Ferdinand VI, and Charles IV, rude, and two pierced, 9.20; the New York Washington Cent, NON VI, etc., v. f., 62; Unique Washington, obv., bust of Georgius IV, rev., as reverse of large eagle cent of 1791, nearly proof, copper, 31; Liverpool halfpenny, 1791, 12; Naked bust Cent, 1792, 20; Military bust Cent, 1792, edge plain, rev, eagle and stars, 85; similar obv. with rev. General of the American Armies, etc., in ten lines, v. f.

and r., 37.50. Copper Washington Half Dollar, 20; Wright's naked bust, rev. Signing the Declaration, bronze, v. f. 18.50; Washington before Boston, silver, 11.25; Silver Trieste Medal, 1841, 7.50; the old Washington Masonic in brass, only fair (Marvin 264), 16. The Politicals and Presidential medals sold at merely nominal prices, though occasionally one of Lincoln or Jackson enlivened the monotony. A Feuchtwanger Composition Medal, rev., House and household furniture, etc., f. and ex. r., 16.25. Rare Medal of Peter Henius, Admiral of the Dutch squadron which captured the Spanish silver fleet off Matanzas in 1628, silver, v. f. size 38, exc. rare, and never before offered in an American sale, 20. Most of the books brought fair prices. Burke's "Orders of Knighthood," with colored plates, 12.50; Medallic History of England, 40 plates, 7.25; Ruding's Annals, 6.50; Schubert's Monnayes Russes, 37 plates, 10.

Mr. Frossard has held other sales since our last, beside the one above mentioned of the Wood Collection. March 14, he sold a very choice collection, which although containing but 613 numbers, realized not far from \$1,600. The catalogue was illustrated with three fine heliotype plates showing some beautiful German Crowns, Bell Thalers, fine Russian Portrait Roubles, and a very choice set of six of the Franco-American Jetons of Louis XV, in proof condition. The heliotype shows these Jetons excellently, and is worthy of preservation. We have priced catalogues, but must content ourselves with this brief notice. Mr. Frossard's sales, while occupying usually not more than a day have always something very attractive to collectors, and this was peculiarly inviting.

EDITORIAL.

The plans of the Editors for the coming volume of the *Journal* are so far advanced, that we feel justified in assuring our readers that it will be fully equal to any of its predecessors in value and interest. Each number will contain a plate, and several articles of special importance are in preparation. Among other matters we expect to publish a series of papers on European Orders, War Medals, and Decorations, which are now attracting the attention of some of our Collectors.

THE *Journal* for April is late in reaching our subscribers for the reason that a portion of the copy was not received by us till after the date on which the magazine should have appeared, and the extra eight pages of this number, beside the usual index, etc., are offered to our friends as a small recompense for the delay.

THE Franco-American Jetons would seem to have been restruck from time to time, probably for some years, and quite recently several sets in various metals have been issued from the original dies. This accounts for the comparative frequency with which they have lately appeared in Coin Sales. We are glad to learn from Mr. Frossard's Catalogue that the further use of the dies has been forbidden.

WE print, as matter of custom and record, the proceedings of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, but the Editors of the *Journal* wish it to be understood that they thereby express no opinion, either collectively or individually, on the case of Feuardent vs. De Cesnola.

Perhaps the very worst instance of the misuse of the word "type" is in the Coin Collector's Journal for December, 1883. It is there stated, that of the large copper cents of 1857 "there are two types large and small date but no varieties that we have been able to discover." Considering that the difference between large and small numerals is almost as trifling a distinction as can exist between two dies, one is really puzzled to know by what word Messrs. Scott & Co. would distinguish between the large copper and small nickel cents of the same year, 1857.

Any of our readers having duplicates of Nos. 2 and 3 of Vol. V, will confer a favor by mailing them to us, for which we will return copies of our late issues.

It is a fact worth noticing in connection with the continued coinage of the Silver Dollar beyond all possible need, that as one of the consequences, the country now has various different kinds of circulation, viz: gold, silver, National greenbacks, the first issue of bills of the National Banks with green backs, the second, or brown backs, gold certificates, silver certificates, postal currency various issues, postal notes, and in some sections the old Bank Notes are not yet all redeemed; many of these issues are directly traceable to the persistent coinage of silver beyond all reason.



CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called "The Boston Numismatic Society." Its object shall be the promotion of Numismatic Science, and the formation of a Cabinet and Library for the use of its members.

ARTICLE II.

The Society shall consist of Resident, Corresponding and Honorary Members.

ARTICLE III.

The Officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Curator; all of whom shall be elected annually at the stated meeting in January. The offices of Vice-President and Curator shall be held by one and the same person.

ARTICLE IV.

The right of voting, of holding offices, and of transacting business, shall be confined to Resident Members.

ARTICLE V.

The Society shall establish such By-laws as may be deemed necessary for for its government and regulation.

ARTICLE VI.

No change shall be made in this Constitution, unless by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at a stated meeting, and unless notice of the proposed change shall have been given in writing at a previous meeting.

BY-LAWS.

- 1. The President shall occupy the Chair at the meetings of the Society, and nominate all Committees. He shall give the casting vote, when necessary.
- 2. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President, and in the absence of both, a President *pro tempore* shall occupy the Chair.
- 3. The Secretary shall take correct minutes of the proceedings of the Society; preserve all documents belonging thereto; notify all Members of their election, as well as all Committees of their appointment; and keep a correct list of the Members of the Society.
- 4. The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of the funds of the Society, and attend to the collection and payment of moneys; but no payment shall be made except on an order from the President. He shall present a statement of all receipts and expenditures at the Annual Meeting in January.
- 5. The Curator shall have charge of the Cabinet and all specimens and books belonging to the Society, and report on their condition at the Annual Meeting in January, and shall announce all donations and purchases at each Monthly Meeting.
- 6. Any candidate for membership must be proposed in writing by a member, and may be balloted for at the next meeting of the Society, when one negative vote shall defeat his election.
- 7. No person residing in Massachusetts shall be chosen a Corresponding Member, and no Corresponding Member shall continue such after removing into this State.
- 8. No Resident Member shall be entitled to the privileges of membership, until he shall have paid the entrance fee of three dollars.
 - 9. No note shall be taken of the rejection of any person by ballot.
- 10. Every Resident Member shall pay to the Treasurer a fee of two dollars annually, after the year of his entrance.
- 11. Any person regularly chosen a Resident Member may become a Life Member of the Society, by paying to the Treasurer the sum of Twenty Dollars, which shall entitle him to the privileges of membership, free from all dues or assessments.
- 12. Any member shall have leave to resign upon application in writing, provided he can produce a certificate from the Treasurer that all sums due from him to the Society have been paid.
- 13. The stated meetings of the Society shall be held on the second Friday in every month at 4 P. M.
- 14. Special meetings may be called by resolution of the Society, by public notice from the President, or at the written request of three members.

16. Assessments may be imposed at any time, when three-fourths of the members present at any meeting shall vote it to be necessary.

17. None of these By-Laws shall be suspended, except by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any meeting.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section I. Jeremiah Colburn, John Phelps Putnam, William Sumner Appleton and Henry Davenport, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of the Boston Numismatic Society, to be located in Boston, for the purpose of collecting and preserving Medals and Coins, and publishing accounts of the same; also for the collection of a Numismatic Library, elucidating the history of ancient and modern Medals and Coins; and for these purposes, shall have all the powers and privileges, and be subject to all the duties, requirements and liabilities, set forth in the sixtieth chapter of the General Statutes.

Section 2. The said corporation may hold and possess real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

House of Representatives, March 14, 1870.

HARVEY JEWELL, Speaker.

In Senate, March 17, 1870.

H. H. COOLIDGE, President.

March 19, 1870.

WILLIAM CLAFLIN.

Secretary's Department, Boston, March 25, 1870.

A true copy. Attest.

Passed to be enacted.

Passed to be enacted.

Approved.

OLIVER WARNER, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

OFFICERS FOR 1884.

President.

JEREMIAH COLBURN.

Vice-President and Curator.
HENRY DAVENPORT.

Treasurer.
SYLVESTER SAGE CROSBY.

Secretary.
WILLIAM SUMNER APPLETON.

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Winslow Lewis,* Boston. George Williams Pratt,* Boston. Henry Davenport, Jeremiah Colburn, William Sumner Appleton, " John Kimball Wiggin,* William Eliot Lamb,† Henry Dearborn Fowle,* " Augustine Shurtleff,† Brookline. Joseph Maria Finotti,† Fearing Burr, † Hingham. Henry Mason Brooks,† Salem. Edward Sprague Rand, Jr., † Dedham. William Gordon Stearns,* Cambridge. Charles Endicott, # Beverly. John Harvard Ellis,* Charlestown. Henry Sewell Adams, \$\pm\$ Boston. Hubbard Winslow Bryant, † Boston. Justin Jones,‡ Philip S. Sprague,* Samuel Jennison, † Newton. John Phelps Putnam,* Boston. Samuel Abbott Green,

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The first ten were the Founders of the Society.

* Deceased.

† Resigned.

‡ Dropped.

William Francis Johnson, Newton. George Gardner Creamer, ‡ Salem. George Washington Cram,† Norwalk, Conn. Marcellus Littlefield, 1 Woburn. Enoch Robinson Morse,‡ Boston. Dudley Richards Child,† "

Thomas Hall, Jr., † Boston. William Theoph. Rogers Marvin, Brookline. William Elliot Woodward, Boston. Charles Paine Thayer,‡ Walter Woodman,† Cambridge. Dudley Bowditch Fay, Boston.

[APRIL, 1884.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

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John Curwen,					Harrisburg, Penn.
Joseph Jacob Mickley,*					Philadelphia, Penn.
Anna Powell Jones,*	*	,			Boston.
John Yonge Akerman,*					London, England.
John Henry Alexander,*					Baltimore, Md.
James Davie Butler,					Madison, Wis.
James Pollock, .					Philadelphia, Penn.
Charles Clay,					Manchester, England.
Charles Edward Anthon,					New York, N.Y.
Lea Ahlborn,					Stockholm, Sweden.
James Carson Brevoort,					Brooklyn, N.Y.
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Hubbard Winslow Bryan	nt,					Portland, Me
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William Poillon, .						New York, N.Y.
George Frederick Ulex,						Hamburg, Germany.
Rodney A. Mercur,						Towanda, Penn.
Joseph Bigg Ripley,						Savannah, Geo.
Thomas Warner, .						Cohocton, N.Y.
TT ' TT C'						Paris, France.
Richard Hoe Lawrence,						New York, N.Y.
* Deceased		†	Resig	ned.		‡ Dropped.

SALE OF THE WARNER COLLECTION,

From June 2 to 7. Catalogues ready May 1st.

The very large and well-known collection of Thomas Warner, Esq., of Cohocton, Steuben Co., N.Y., has been placed in our hands to catalogue and sell at auction. This cabinet will interest every collector, as it contains specimens of all the divisions of Numismatic science. It consists of Coins of all countries and periods, and of modern Medals, comprising,—

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copy with ten (or probably twelve) quarto plates, containing specimens of the different series.

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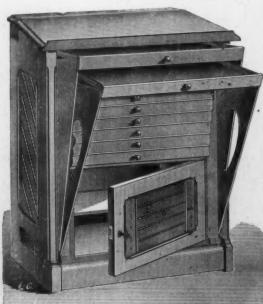
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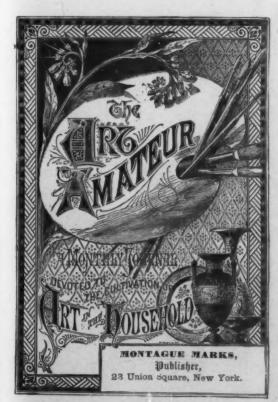
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